

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device (1) for the induction hardening of components (2) which have a circular cross section, especially crankshafts, with the device comprising: two inductor half-shells (4, 5) arranged along a portion of the periphery of the component (2) to be hardened, characterized in that at least one of the two inductor half-shells (4, 5) has only one inductor segment, (6) through which current flows.

2. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that one of the inductor half-shells (5) has two inductor segments (7, 8) and in that the other inductor half-shell (4) has only one inductor segment (6).

3. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the inductor half-shell (4) which has the single inductor segment (6) is arranged offset in the longitudinal direction of the component (2) with respect to the inductor half-shell (5) which has the two inductor segments (7, 8) in such a way that the single inductor segment (6) is located centrally between the two inductor segments (7, 8).

4. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that between the two inductor segments (7, 8) there is an intermediate space (10), the single inductor segment (6) being arranged centrally with respect to the intermediate space (10).

5. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the two inductor half-shells (4, 5) each have only one inductor segment (6, 7).

6. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the two inductor half-shells (4, 5) are arranged offset in relation to each other in the longitudinal direction of the component (2) to be hardened.

7. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim 1 ~~to 6~~, characterized in that respectively arranged between the two inductor half-shells (4, 5) and outside the two inductor half-shells (4, 5) are sliding shoes (11), which are provided for coming into contact with the component (2) to be hardened.

8. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of~~ claims 1 ~~to 6~~ characterized in that the inductor half-shells (4, 5) are formed as contactlessly operating inductor half-shells (4, 5).

9. (New) The device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that respectively arranged between the two inductor half-shells and outside the two inductor half-shells are sliding shoes, which are provided for coming into contact with the component to be hardened.

10. (New) The device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the inductor half-shells are formed as contactlessly operating inductor half-shells.

11. (New) The device as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that respectively arranged between the two inductor half-shells and outside the two inductor half-shells are sliding shoes, which are provided for coming into contact with the component to be hardened.

12. (New) The device as claimed in claim 3 characterized in that the inductor half-shells are formed as contactlessly operating inductor half-shells.

13. (New) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that respectively arranged between the two inductor half-shells and outside the two inductor half-shells are sliding shoes, which are provided for coming into contact with the component to be hardened.

14. (New) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the inductor half-shells are formed as contactlessly operating inductor half-shells.

15. (New) The device as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that respectively arranged between the two inductor half-shells and outside the two inductor half-shells are sliding shoes, which are provided for coming into contact with the component to be hardened.

16. (New) The device as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the inductor half-shells are formed as contactlessly operating inductor half-shells.

17. (New) The device as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that respectively arranged between the two inductor half-shells and outside the two inductor half-shells are sliding shoes, which are provided for coming into contact with the component to be hardened.

18. (New) The device as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the inductor half-shells are formed as contactlessly operating inductor half-shells.